

THE INDIAN CHIEFTAIN.

CHIEFTAIN PUBLISHING CO.

VINITA, INDIAN TERRITORY, THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 1902.

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True Economy

The difference in cost between an alum baking powder and the highest-class cream of tartar baking powder would not amount for a family's supply to one dollar a year.

Dr. Price's is the standard cream of tartar baking powder. It makes the food delicious and healthful.

NOTE.—You cannot, if you value good health, afford to use cheap, low-grade, alum baking powders. They are apt to spoil the food; they endanger the health. All physicians will tell you that alum in food is deleterious.

BLOODY BATTLE

Four Cattlemen Settle an Old-Time Feud With Shot Guns.

NEAR COLLINSVILLE

The Fight Started and When the Last Shot Was Fired all of the Participants Were Either Killed or Wounded.

A feud of long standing between Skidmore, the Oologah cattleman, and a cattleman named Mayfield, came to a tragic ending near Collinsville Saturday afternoon, when the men, each accompanied by a friend, met on the road and engaged in a desperate battle.

Skidmore was shot through the breast, sustaining a mortal injury, a man named Phillips, who accompanied Mayfield, was instantly killed, and Mayfield and the companion of Skidmore were both seriously wounded.

It was late in the afternoon when Skidmore, accompanied by a cowboy, left Collinsville for Oologah.

A few miles west of town they encountered Mayfield and Phillips, awaiting them by the roadside. All of the men were heavily armed and were apparently expecting trouble.

As Skidmore approached, Mayfield raised his shot gun, and bringing a charge of buckshot tearing through the right breast of Skidmore.

As the wounded man reeled from the saddle, he turned his gun on Phillips who was about to fire at him and sent the contents of his gun crashing through his brain, killing him instantly.

The companion of Skidmore and Mayfield turned their guns on each other simultaneously and both went down seriously wounded. A moment later, they fired again, both shots taking effect.

Fearing trouble between the men, a party of friends had followed them from Collinsville, and arrived on the scene in time to prevent the wounded men from finishing their desperate work.

The wounded men, and the body of Phillips, were taken into Collinsville and medical aid summoned.

The physicians pronounced the wound of Skidmore fatal, and both of the other men are in a critical condition.

The trouble between the men dates back to a commissioner's trial, in which Skidmore testified against Mayfield, and their friends have expected trouble between them.

Cancer Conquered Britain.
Malaria was conquered by Simon's Liver Purifier (in box.) Protected from moisture, dust, and insects. Clears the complexion, cures constipation, aids and corrects action of the liver.

HAVE ASSUMED CONTROL.

Officials of the New City Government Inaugurated Last Week.

With a business like simplicity and celerity the new city officials were inaugurated last week, and assumed the responsibility of making Vinita a greater and better city.

In his inaugural address Mayor Parker referred as follows to the vital questions confronting the new administration:

SCHOOLS.
I recommend that steps be taken to ascertain the status of negotiations for the purchase of the property now occupied by our public schools, the authority of the school board in the premises, and what steps, if any, are necessary by this council to acquire title to the same. The levy of six mills for school purposes should be ample for the purposes of this department.

FINANCES.
Either the finance committee, or a special auditing committee should be directed to audit the books and accounts of the city, with the retiring officials, and a statement made and published at the earliest possible day.

STREETS.
It is now asserted that within a few months, possibly within sixty days, the appraisal of lots in the Cherokee nation will be in progress. I have the assurance of those in authority that Vinita will be the first appraised. While improvements should not be inaugurated on an extensive scale until after the appraisal and sale of lots, when the status of property holders will be fixed, there are many things to which your attention should be directed immediately. I recommend specifically, that Wilson and Scrapper streets from the Frisco depot to Canadian avenue, and Illinois avenue from the M. & K. & T. R. to Miller street, be immediately put upon a grade, using the best material obtainable for the purpose. If Joplin rock or gravel should be selected, I am glad to state greatly reduced rates may be secured on shipments for the use of the city; and that other streets be placed upon a grade as rapidly as the resources of the city will permit.

POLL-TAX.
To carry on this work it is essential that you have the support of the people—financial support I mean, and if each will do his duty, it will be forthcoming. Let them respond by promptly paying their poll-tax to the street commissioner or collector. Those who are able should be willing to pay it in cash, because they may rest assured it will be used to bring the largest returns, and we all have an interest in making it go as far as possible. Those who furnish their labor, or that of substitutes, should respond when their services are required. Those who refuse to do either, vigorous measures are recommended. In this connection, I recommend a resolution be passed calling upon the retiring street commissioner to submit a full report, without delay, showing what sums were received by him in payment of this tax, how they were applied, who responded by furnishing substitutes, at what places work was done, and who on demand, declined to, or have not responded.

SIDEWALKS.
A grade and uniform width should be established for sidewalks throughout the city without delay; to the end that walks now being built, as well as others to be made, may be uniform. After this is done shade trees may be set out along avenues, which will add much to the beauty and worth for residence purposes. The street committee should repair and build crossings of streets and urge upon property holders to construct walks of uniform and durable material at once. Nothing will help the looks of a town, and increase the value of their property so much as good sidewalks. Places which now seem remote from the business section of the city will become easily accessible, when this is done. Good sidewalks should be required of railroads at all crossings.

ARTISIAN WELLS.
Your attention is called to the well, which, as you are aware, is in a deplorable condition. This is a legacy from the last administration.

tion, and while it is a very desirable improvement, in my judgment, arrangements should have been made before it was undertaken, to put the well in proper shape, with funds at their command. However, we must take hold of it at once. I recommend our hardware merchants and plumbers be invited to submit within one week, suggestions with prices, for its improvement, along lines to be indicated by the street and alley committee. I also suggest the advisability of piping a portion of the water to south park, with two or three hydrants or drinking fountains along the line.

PARKS.
Public parks are the grandest institutions of municipal life. When properly improved, protected and cared for, they become at once the pride and joy of everyone, old and young. The Commercial club has in contemplation the laying out of both North and South parks with walks and driveways, planting of trees and other shrubbery, and sowing grass, the expense to be defrayed for the present by those owning property immediately adjacent to them, and such other public spirited citizens as will contribute. I feel that this movement should be indorsed and encouraged by you, and that as soon as practicable the city should perform the duty and assume the burden of caring for the places of public amusement and recreation.

RAILROAD FACILITIES.
I am happy to announce that the fondest hope of our citizens with reference to local railroad terminals are in fair prospect of realization. Vice President Allen of the M. & K. & T. after an interview on the subject, announced at St. Louis on Saturday that that company would join with the Frisco company, as soon as arrangements could be perfected, to construct a joint passenger station at Vinita, that would anticipate the growth of the city in its proportions, five to ten years. Subsequently favorable responses were received from certain of the Frisco officials. President Yoakum is now in Europe, but it will be recalled he expressed himself favorably on this point to a committee of our citizens headed by Dr. B. F. Fortner last year. This is an improvement, the value of which cannot be over estimated and the traveling public of the highest importance.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.
That steps be taken to encourage the fire department, and arrangements be made at once for attaching the engine recently purchased to the various artesian wells, and otherwise making provisions for its effective use.

SANITARY AFFAIRS.
The heated term is now approaching, and I recommend the sanitary committee in conjunction with the board of health make a careful investigation and ascertain whether the ordinances with reference to health and sanitation are being carefully observed if not that warnings be given, and upon non-compliance, recommend prosecutions.

SPRINKLING STREETS.
The expense of sprinkling the down town streets is a burdensome one to our merchants and business men, and is one not equally distributed. I recommend this subject for your consideration, and would suggest that experiments be made by the use of the fire hose attached to the well, and a sprinkling nozzle to ascertain whether or not the transportation of the city cannot be sprinkled more economically, and possibly at the expense of the city.

JAIL.
That negotiations be entered into with the proper authorities to secure, if possible the right to use the U. S. jail at the place for the confinement of persons committed by the municipal authorities.

IN GENERAL.
It is my purpose to enforce the ordinances strictly and to permit no disturbances within the city limits on the Sabbath day. We have reason to be proud of the enforcement of the law by the United States and local authorities with reference to traffic carried on by "joints," and the sale of drinks as substitutes for intoxicating liquors. With the co-operation of the U.

ited States no such places will be permitted to do business during our administration if it can possibly be prevented.

In conclusion, permit me to remind you that the burdens you have assumed will require much of your time, and most careful consideration. By accepting the trust imposed you have implicitly agreed to give both, and the interest of the city should take precedence over those of private concern. We should attend all meetings of this body, when it is possible to do so, promptly and diligently perform the work assigned to us.

We should encourage immigration and investment of outside capital by every legitimate means. Give to the visitor a hearty welcome, and encourage them to join with us in making Vinita a magnificent and prosperous city.

HENDERSON'S SCHEME.

Will Force Advocates of Statehood Bill into Antagonizing Other Interests.

Friends of the statehood bill have become convinced that Speaker Henderson has evolved a clever scheme to keep Oklahoma, New Mexico and Arizona out of the Union. For the third time, friends of statehood appealed to the speaker yesterday to name a day for considering the statehood bill. They received no satisfaction. Some time ago the speaker informed Mr. Knox, chairman of the committee, that a day would be fixed by the committee on rules. But the day has never come. Friends of the bill are now inclined to think that the speaker objects to force the statehood advocates to antagonize other legislative interests.

The omnibus statehood bill is a privileged measure and can be called up at any time on a majority vote of the house. If the statehood bill is called up with a rule the friends of whatever measure it has displaced will become indignant and try to get satisfaction by defeating it.

It has been in vain that friends of the bill have pointed out to the "czar" of the house that the admission of three new states to the Union was of more national importance than other measures pending up to this time the speaker alone has absolutely prevented any consideration of the bill by congress.

THESE STUDENTS

Have Won Mention on Honor Roll of Female Seminary.

The following is the honor roll at the Female seminary for the past month:

Seniors—Bulah Edmonson, 95; Lola Ward, 95; Clara Tyler, 97; Genobia Ward, 95.

Juniors—Maud McSpadden, 97; Lizzie McSpadden, 95; Susie Scott, 95; Victoria Foreman, 95.

Sophomores—Amanda Morgan, 96.

Freshmen—Mamie Butler, 98; Lola Garrett, 97; Mina Johnson, 95; Annabel Price, 96; Ethel Seales, 96; Bessie Skidmore, 98; Martha Wallace, 97.

Sixth Grade—Edith Stover, 97; Fannie Holland, 96; Bertha Patrick, 95.

Fifth Grade—Clyde Horn, 99; Fannie Ridge, 98; Florence Payne, 97; Rachel Ratliff, 97; Nola Monroe, 97; Ruth Gott, 96; Rosie Lundy, 96; Allie Johnston, 96; Hope Bowman, 95; Susie Pierce, 95; Lizzie Frazier, 95; Birdie Sattle, 95; Alice Snell, 95.

Primary School—Lillie Bevent, 97; Teatle Cave, 95; Cynthia Downing, 96; Cora Fields, 95; Julia Melton, 95; Alma Mayfield, 95; Sarah Runyon, 95; Celia Welch, 95.

SEMINARY GRADUATES.

List of Those Who Will Complete Their Course This Year.

The graduates from the seminary this year will be as follows: Female seminary—Clara Tyler, Lucy Starr, Sarah Ballard, Susie Sevier, Lizzie Ross, Byrd Faulkner, Goldie Barker, Lola Ward, Mary Rider, Genobia Ward, Bulah Edmonson.

Male Seminary—Geo. W. Fields, Willie Scott, Chas. S. Monroe, G. Owen Grant, Dennis McNair, Clyde Freeman, Francis W. Caywood. The class honors were won by Willie Scott, Owen Grant.

Notice to Cherokee Emigrants.
I will remain in Fryer Creek, I. T., one month more with the Emigrant Pay-roll of 1897. It is profitable for all emigrants to leave their status. It is nothing to look unless you do business. JOHN C. DURCAN.

MELLETT SAYS

That Washington Dispatch Quoting Him as Opposed to Division Was False.

DENIES INTERVIEW

As Published, in Toto, Though He States That he is Opposed to Any Legislation Except Statehood for Territory.

An alleged interview with Wm. M. Mellette by their Washington correspondent, in which he was quoted as being opposed to the division of the Northern Judicial district, and as expressing an endorsement of the present carpeting regime in the territory, was published in the Ardmoreite Wednesday.

The purported interview raised a storm of indignation though the general sentiment was to defer judgment until Mr. Mellette was given an opportunity to explain. On his return from Washington Friday morning Mr. Mellette denied having given the interview and was especially forceful in his denial of being opposed to a division of the Northern district. In regard to the other sentiments expressed in the alleged interview, Mr. Mellette stated that he was opposed to any territorial legislation, as he considered it would jeopardize the chances for statehood, and thought that the present regime should continue until such time as the territory could obtain statehood.

The interview as published, after noting the presence of Mr. Mellette in Washington, read as follows:

"The only thing we need particularly in the way of legislation," said Mr. Mellette, "is authority from the national congress to elect a delegate to the house of representatives, to look after our interests. The trouble has been that congress has not been fully advised in regard to our needs. People come on here from the territory, advocates various schemes and without careful investigation congress enacts them into a law. The result is that we are constantly kept in a chaotic condition, never knowing exactly where we are.

"At present congress is creating a new judicial district in Indian territory. While I am not opposing this legislation, it seems to me that it is wholly unnecessary. The district attorney in the Northern district, and the United States marshals, have no difficulty in handling the business coming before their respective offices, and the department is entirely satisfied with their work. It seems to me that if the present officers can discharge all of the duties required of them in the present judicial district, that it is merely a waste of money to create two districts out of the territory embraced in the present district. But there are ambitious men throughout the country who would like to serve Uncle Sam in a remunerative office, even in the Indian territory, and as a result they have appealed to their senators and representatives, with the result that a new judicial district is to be provided for the purpose of taking care of them.

"Personally I am opposed to any territorial legislation by this congress. We are prospering in the territory under the present government, which is exclusively under the control of the courts. We have good judges, and things are proceeding smoothly. The Dawes commission is making rapid strides toward the completion of the work of dividing up the Indian lands. To create a territorial form of government at this time would merely tend to confuse matters and result in a backward movement, from which we would not recover for possibly two years. I want to see the work of progress and development proceed unmolested. Aside from permitting us to send a representative to congress to look after our interests, and possibly the creation of a system for the collection of taxes for the maintenance of a public school system, the less legislative congress does the better off the people will be.

"If they will let us alone, in three or four years' time we will be in a condition for statehood. I want to see statehood with Oklahoma, for I do not believe that either territory is sufficiently large in area to maintain, without exorbitant taxation, state form of government. In four years the lands of the Indians will all have been allotted, and the work of the Dawes commission concluded; the Indian nations will have become extinct, much land will be prosperous and ready to join Oklahoma in the establishment and maintenance of a state form of government without any burden to our people."

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ALLOTMENT BILL

Has Been Submitted to Congress by the Secretary of the Interior.

A bill has been submitted to congress by Secretary of the Interior Hitchcock, providing for the allotment of the lands and final adjudication of the affairs of the Cherokee nation.

Accompanying the bill, which is practically the memorial in a modified form, which was passed by the last council, is a recommendation that the bill be passed without a provision for submitting it to the nation for ratification. The passage of the bill is urged by the secretary to enable the department to speedily adjudicate the affairs of the tribe.

The important features of the bill proposed by Mr. Hitchcock are as follows:

The lands shall be appraised at their true value, without reference to their location or to improvements thereon. The appraisal will be made by the Dawes commission.

Each Cherokee will be entitled to an allotment of 100 acres of average value. Forty acres of allotment shall be designated as a homestead, which shall not be alienable for a period of twenty-one years. A separate deed shall be issued to the homestead.

After the allotments have been made, the surplus lands shall be sold at auction, and the funds derived therefrom apportioned, per capita, to the members of the tribe. The portion of the allotment, in excess of the homestead, may be sold by the allottee, one-fourth of the acreage in one year, one-fourth in three years and the balance in five years.

Excess holdings by members of the tribe is prohibited, and the allottees are guaranteed peaceful and undisputed possession of their allotments. Excess allotments are strictly prohibited.

Mineral lands shall be segregated from the allotments and sold at public auction, the proceeds to be divided among the members of the tribe.

The tribal relations of the Cherokees shall be dissolved on March 4, 1906.

Allotments may be rented for a period not exceeding five years. Delaware Indians shall be entitled to share in the allotments of land and distribution of the funds of the Cherokee, as their rights may be determined by the court of claims, or by the United States Supreme court. Pending the decision of these rights the Dawes commission is instructed to set aside 157,000 acres of land for the Delaware.

The usual reservations for schools, townships, cemeteries and other public purposes are made. The roll of citizens will be made as of July 1, 1902, and all persons then living as members of the tribe shall be entitled to enrollment. No application for enrollment shall be received after August 31, 1902, and no white person who has intermarried with a Cherokee since December 16, 1898, shall be entitled to enrollment or participation in the distribution of the property of the Cherokee.

SALE OF LOTS STOPPED.

Government Obtains Injunction in the Celebrated Crowder City Case.

Judge W. H. H. Clayton of the central district has enjoined Dr. W. E. Crowder, founder of the town of Crowder City, from the further sale of lots, holding that an Indian cannot sell any part of his allotment. Judge Clayton, in the decision, said that, while an Indian could not sell his land as lots, yet he could in any other way, which is construed to mean that if by leasing he could procure a town of two hundred inhabitants he could compel the government to plat the town, under the Atoka agreement.

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to be paid to your family in the event of your death at any time, exacting only on your part the payment of a tax (for example, at the age of thirty, amounting to 3.1 per cent.) and this only for twenty years, receiving in person if then living, a return IN CASH exceeding fifty per cent. of all taxes paid, the

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